

**Remarks**

This Amendment is responsive to the **February 22, 2007** Office Action. Claims 18, 20, and 27 were identified as being allowable in this parent case. Claims 18 and 20 have been rewritten in independent form as suggested. An early allowance of these claims and the amended claims that depend from these allowable claims is respectfully requested.

**Summary of The Office Action**

**Claims 1-2, 4-8, 13-15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25-26** were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Beamish (US Patent No. 6,445,732) (Beamish).

**Claims 3 and 16** were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Beamish in view of Heuer (US Patent No. 5,663,968) (Heuer).

**Claim 9** was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beamish in view of Matsumoto (US Pub. No. 2003/0217349) (Matsumoto).

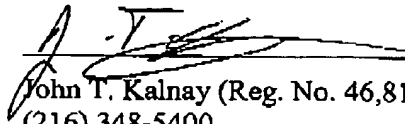
**Claims 10-12** were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beamish in view of Sheth (US Pub. No. 2005/0010755) (Sheth).

**Claims 22 and 24** were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beamish.

**Conclusion**

An early allowance of the claims identified as being allowable and allowed is earnestly solicited, along with allowance of the amended claims that depend from allowable claims.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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